

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Alfons Eiterer et al.  
Serial No.: Unknown (U.S. National Phase of International Application  
PCT/EP2004/012723, filed November 10, 2004)  
Filed: May 8, 2006 (Priority Date Claimed November 10, 2003)  
Confirmation No.: Unknown  
Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Examiner: Unknown  
Title: **LASER MACHINING APPARATUS AND LASER MACHINING  
METHOD**  
Atty Docket: BEET-17

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

May 8, 2006

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.